IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Title at page 1, lines 1-2, as follows:

MAGNETIC HEAD APPARATUS, MAGNETIC HEAD SUPPORTING MECHANISM AND MAGNETIC RECORDING APPARATUS HAVING AN IMPROVED IMPACT RESISTANCE

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The present invention relates to a magnetic head apparatus, a magnetic head supporting mechanism and a magnetic recording apparatus. Specifically, the present invention relates to a magnetic head apparatus, a magnetic head supporting mechanism and a magnetic recording apparatus that have improved impact resistance.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Furthermore, it would be ~~conceived~~ effective to shorten the distance from the leaf spring portion to the slider by cutting down the whole length of the load beam for the purpose of reducing the moment of the slider as a mass point generated about the leaf spring portion. It is true that this countermeasure is effective for magnetic recording apparatus with small media. However, in a normal magnetic recording apparatus having a medium with the size from 2.5 inches to 3.5 inches, it is necessary to extend the length of the magnetic head supporting mechanism in order to compensate the ~~cut down of~~ reduction in the length of the load beam (since the medium size is large). Therefore, there is a problem in that it would be difficult to realize an appropriate weight balance with respect to the rotation axis of the magnetic head supporting mechanism.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to the present invention, there is also provided a magnetic head supporting mechanism comprising a magnetic head apparatus including a base plate and a load beam extending from the base plate, a head arm attached to said base plate, an elastically deformable portion that is flexible provided between the base plate and the load beam so that a floating structure that allows the load beam to swing is formed about the elastically deformable portion, a projecting portion for generating a load disposed in the vicinity of the elastically deformable portion of the load beam, and a projecting portion for generating a load provided on the head arm, the projecting portion being adapted to apply a pressure to the load beam, wherein a position of the projecting portion for generating a load is adapted to coincide with a center of mass, a pressing load is applied to a recording medium via a floating type slider attached to the load beam, and the pressing load to the recording medium is set by [an] the amount of rotation of the load beam caused by the pressure applied by the projecting portion for generating a load. The position of the above-mentioned center of mass may be adjusted by using a dead weight made of a vibration damping member or other functional parts as well as an ordinary weight. Furthermore, it is preferable that the load beam be made of a lightweight metal such as a stainless steel or aluminum or a lightweight material such as a resin. As the resin for the load beam, an electrically conductive resin may be used in order to attain electrical contact with an external member. Alternatively, an electrically conductive coating may be formed on the resin in order to attain electrical contact with an external member via the electrically conductive coating. The above-mentioned dead weight may be made of a resin. In addition, the head arm may be supported in such a way as to be pivotable in a radial direction of said recording medium, and the head arm may have a strengthen plate

that is attached to said head arm perpendicularly in such a way that it would not interfere with said recording medium. The base plate may be provided as a separate member different from the load beam, or alternatively, the base plate may be provided as a part integral with the load beam.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

With the use of the above-described magnetic head apparatus or the actuator in a magnetic recording apparatus, it is possible to enhance impact resistance of the magnetic recording apparatus both in [[the]] an operating state and in [[the]] a non-operating state, irrespective of the size of the magnetic recording apparatus. Therefore, reliability of the magnetic recording apparatus can be enhanced.

Please replace the heading at page 19, line 9, as follows:

~~DETAILED~~ DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The boundary portion 32 between the base plate 24 and the load beam 22 (namely, the portion along line 30 in Figs. 1 and 2) functions as a cantilevered leaf spring portion that serves as an elastically deformable portion. At positions slightly offset from line 30 on the load beam 22, there is provided a pair of pressure-receiving surfaces 34. Thus, after the base plate 24 is fixed, the load beam 22 can swing or pivot about line 30 upon receiving pressing force applied externally of the magnetic head apparatus 20 on the pressure receiving surfaces

34. The swinging of the load beam 22 in response to application of a pressing force is illustrated in Fig. 2.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 7 is a plan view showing a magnetic recording apparatus equipped with the magnetic head or the magnetic head supporting mechanism according to the present invention. Fig. 8 is a cross sectional view taken [[at]] along line 8-8 in Fig. 7.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The material of the load beam 22 is not limited to the above-described thin metal plate, [[but]] and other materials can also be used as long as rigidity is assured.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The inventors have discovered that a resin coating 23 is also used as a material for the load beam 22 instead of the thin plate of a stainless steel that have been conventionally used. With the use of a resin for the load beam 22, the mass suspended by the spring portion would be further reduced, and therefore the impact resistance performance can be improved still more. The inventors found that resins suitable for the load beam 22 are liquid crystal polymer resins or PPS resins that have electric conductivity, in view of their ability of preventing ESD (i.e. electro static discharge). It is desirable that the specific volume resistance of these resins be smaller than $10^5 \Omega$ cm.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 10 is an exploded view showing a modification of the magnetic head apparatus according to the above-described embodiment. In Fig. 10, parts having the same functions as the parts in the above-described embodiment are designated with the same reference numerals and descriptions thereof will therefore be omitted.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the structure of the modification shown in Fig. 10, the orientation of the slit and the spring portion is reversed and the projecting portion 66 is formed as a part extending transversely to the load beam on the slider side of the base plate with the spring portion between to create a load. In this case also, the weight or mass of a suspension slider assembly is arranged in such a way that its center of mass coincides with the projecting portion. In this structure, a necessary load can be provided as long as the conditions of the above-described principles are met, and the structure has stability against an impact.